become a regular feature in the country to deal in human life. This is nothing but slave trading. Therefore, it is very essential, in the interest of the nation as a whole and in order to give security to the women folk as such, that there should be a legislation, making a provision that severe action would be taken against those who sell, purchase, connive, abbet, dispose of in any manner which is not permitted by law. In this way we would be reassuring our womenfolk. Even the Constitution has made a provision for women. The other day one lady Member was referring to the articles in the Constitution which guaranteed the right to life of a woman or a man. Therefore, legislation may be enacted to give security to the womenfolk as such.

1.00 P.M.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now it is time to adjourn for lunch. We will take up the remaining special mentions after 5.00.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam, my special mention is very important. This relates to the glorification of sati. Kindly allow me one minute.

Proposed rally to glorify Sati in some places of West Bengal.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, I just want to draw attention of this House to an item reported in today's newspapers about the proposed rally and procession glorifying sati to be taken out from Kankurgachi sati temple, in the eastern part of Calcutta and also in Jorabagan temple. Not only a rally is proposed to be held, but they have distributed leaflets to organise a mela, I believe, in the glorification of sati. Madam, the MLA in that area, talking about the practice, expressed reluctance to campaign against the glorification of sati in one breath. He also said that he cannot denounce the system *in toto* nor support it. He further said, I am quoting him: "If I do it now I will make my wife as well as my community hostile as they are worshippers of sati as part of our tradition."

Madam, it is important. This is a shameful act. For the last one week the whole Parliament has been debating upon the legislation against glorification of sati. Whole country is against it. Even without the special Ordinance, the West Bengal Government must take immediate steps to prevent this glorification of sati on November 15. The exising provisions of the Constitution, section 141 of the IPC and section 129 of the Cr. P.C. give the Government enough powers to declare it an unlawful assembly and disperse such a gathering. If this is allowed to continue, the glorification of sati will come to stay and I call upon this Government to take up with the West Bengal Government. .

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): That MLA should be jailed.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: It is the responsibility of the West Bengal Government to see that this glorificaion of sati is not allowed in Calcutta.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned for lunch and will meet again at 2 30

The House then adjourned for lunch at four minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-six minutes past two of the clock. **THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM)** in the Chair.

ANNOUNCEMENT Re. GOVERNMENT BUSINESS FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING 16TH NOVEMBER, 1987.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in the House during the week commencing 16th November, 1987, will consist of the consideration and passing of the following Bills:—

(1) The Auroville (Emergency Provisions) Amendment Bill, 1987, as passed by Lok Sabha.

(2) The Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Amendment Bill, 1987.

[Shri M. M. Jacob]

(3) The Ware-housing Corporations (Amendment) Bill, 1987.

(4) The Authorised Translations (Central Laws) Amendment Bill, 1987.

(5) The Representation of the People (Third Amendment) Bill 1987.

(6) The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Bill, 1987, as passed by Lok Sabha.

(7) The Equal Remuneration (Amendment) Bill, 1987.

(8) The Constitution (Fifty-sixth Amendment) Bill, 1987, as passed by Lok Sabha.

RESOLUTION RE NEED TO AMEND URBAN LAND (CEILING AND REGULATION) Act, 1976

SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution:—

Having regard to the fact that—

(i) prices of land, both urban and rural, have considerably shot up;

(ii) there is lot of corruption prevalent in the land dealings and transactions;

(iii) bogus house building co-operative societies have sprung up in order to take advantage of the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976

(iv) inequitable and deeming fictions have been created by the said Act, giving rise to black-marketing and bogus dealings in land;

(v) agriculture, which is the mainstay of Indian economy, is being completely destroyed under the garb of helping the urban poor;

this House is of opinion that Government should take immediate steps to amend the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976, so as to—

(a) ensure immediate payment to the land owners whose agricultural lands fall within the agglomeration area under the Act, at the prevailing fair market price, instead of deferred payment of 1/4th of the fixed price in cash and 3/4th in Government bonds to mature after the expiration of 20 years, as laid down in the Act;

(b) apportion land among the minors and legal heirs of the property instead of the present method of apportioning the land only to the head and major members of the family;

(c) remove inequitable and unnatural division of areas into urban and non-agglomeration or rural areas under the Act;

(d) save farmers whose agricultural lands happen to fall within the agglomeration area from ruination as a result of unjust and enequitable implementation of the law for which several crores of rupees are being spent to the detriment of the society at large."

Sir, this is a very important subject. This is a legislation which affects the society at large of the farmers. I would first, briefly, give a short history. In the year 1976 this Act was brought to take away the vacant lands within the urban area, say, Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta etc. because in cities a large number of lands were acquired by certain moneyed people and they were keeping them vacant on the expectation that they will get higher prices. Therefore, this was contemplated, that the lands may not be concentrated in the hands of a few with the intention of speculation to get more money. That was regarding the urban area, not the rural area. But, what has happened, Sir, is this. It is very clear from the preamble of the Act. The preamble says:

"Whereas it is expedient to provide for imposition of ceiling on vacant land in the urban agglomeration for the acquisition of such land in excess of